

evolution knows no bounds in strange adaptations to special modes of life. To draw an analogy from bird life; who can say how intricate the functional pattern involved in migration may eventually be found to be?

#### References.

1. 19 2. ANDERSEN, K., Cat. of Chiroptera, pps. 6, 328, 594.
2. 1940. ALLEN, G. M., Bats. p. 130.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

PART I.—In the preparation of this paper, my father, Dr. J. M. HARRISON has shared much of the work with me, and a large proportion of the skulls have been examined and worked out by him. Only the fact that he is the Chairman tonight has decided him not to be a part-author with us.—*J.G.H.*

PART II.—I have much pleasure in thanking all those who have helped me in obtaining specimens of Bats, namely, Miss G. M. Rhodes, Professor D. V. Davies, the late Dr. L. Hopper, Mr. P. A. Clancey and Mr. F. R. Parrington of the Cambridge University Museum of Zoology.—*D.L.H.*

We are also most grateful to Lieut.-Commander C. P. Staples who has prepared the slides for us. He did this at very short notice and after considerable difficulty has succeeded in making our indifferent diagrams quite presentable.

Dr. J. M. Harrison, Sir Philip Manson-Bahr and Mr. C. W. Mackworth-Praed took part in the discussion that followed.

### A New Race of *Phyllastrephus xavieri* (Oustalet), from the British Cameroons.

Dr. JAMES P. CHAPIN sent the following:—

*Phyllastrephus xavieri serlei* new race.

*Description.*—Differs from *Phyllastrephus xavieri xavieri* (Oustalet) of the Upper Congo Forest by the paler yellowish color of its under-parts. The more whitish-yellow coloration is most noticeable on throat and fore-neck. The upper-parts are much alike in the two races, save that the upper tail-coverts of *P. x. serlei* are more rufous brown like the rectrices, less washed with green, and more clearly divided from the green of the rump than in nominate *P. x. xavieri*. There is no marked difference in size.

*Type.*—Male adult, Kumba, British Cameroons, altitude 1,000 feet, 4 April, 1947. Collector's No. C 37.

*Distribution.*—From the lowlands about Kumba, at levels of 600 to 1,200 feet, to Nkongsamba, 3,000 feet, on the eastern side of the Manenguba Mountains. Thus *P. x. serlei* is really not a montane form, and has not been reported from Mount Cameroon or the Bamenda highlands.

*Measurement of type.*—Wing 86, culmen from base 24, tarsus 21 m.m., tail 77.

*Remarks.*—When discussing the differences between *Phyllastrephus xavieri* and *Phyllastrephus icterinus* (Bonaparte) in the "Ibis," 1944, pp. 543-545, I stated that the larger species *P. xavieri*, occupied lowland forests in Uganda, the Congo, and the Cameroon. I did not attempt to divide it racially, although possibly the Uganda specimens are more yellowish than those of the Upper Congo. Neither did I consider *P. xavieri* to be a race of *P. fischeri* (Reichenow), because in Uganda and the eastern Congo, where *P. fischeri sucosus* (Reichenow) lives in mountain forests mostly above 5,000 feet, and *P. xavieri* at lower levels, there was no indication that they interbred. Likewise in the southern Congo and Angola there is no evidence that *P. fischeri cabanisi* (Sharpe) is conspecific with *P. xavieri*.

The western limits of *P. xavieri* appeared to be in the French Cameroon near Efulan and Nkongsamba. A single male with wing 86mm. and tail 76mm. long had been collected for the American Museum by R. H. Drinkwater near Nkongsamba in June, 1930. It seemed a little paler yellowish beneath than Congo specimens, but I did not consider that significant.

Recently Dr. William Serle has kindly lent me a series of twelve skins of *P. xavieri* collected in the region of Kumba, British Cameroons. Most of them are paler beneath, especially on the throat, than Congo specimens; and it will be recalled that the type locality of *P. xavieri* is Bangui, on the Ubangi River. Some of the males from Kumba agree closely with that from Nkongsamba. Thus it appears that this bulbul is represented at the north-western extremity of its range by a race with paler under-parts.

At Kumba, Dr. Serle collected four males and five females of this new race, at levels from 700 to 1,200 feet. He also obtained single males at Bai, 600 feet, 20 miles to the south-west, Masaka, 1,000 feet, 10 miles to the west, and Ndoi, 600 feet, 30 miles to the north of Kumba.

The males have wings 84-87mm., tails 74-79mm. The females have wings 71-77mm., tails 61-68mm. There is some variation in the color of the under-parts, the male from Bai and one of the females from Kumba being almost as bright yellow on throat and lower breast as *P. x. xavieri*. But the browner color of the upper tail-coverts is sufficient to separate them from Congo specimens.

Near the station of Kumba Dr. Serle collected also a series of fifteen males and two females of *Phyllastrephus icterinus*. All came from levels of 700 to 800 feet, and are very like specimens from the Cameroon, Gaboon and Congo. Three skins of this smaller species from Nigeria and Sierra Leone, also lent me by Dr. Serle, confirm the opinion I have already expressed as to the brighter yellow under-parts of *P. icterinus* in Upper Guinea.